REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that in the Examiner's opinion the present application contained several species, in particular:

I. The species illustrated in Figure 2 displaying a damping cylinder with chamfer.

II. The species illustrated in Figure 3 displaying a damping cylinder with inner grooves and recesses.

III. The species illustrated in Figure 4 displaying a damping cylinder with a single annular groove.

It was required to elect a single species for further prosecution.

In the present communication applicants elected for further prosecution Species I illustrating in Figure 2 which displays a damping cylinder with a chamfer. Claims 1-7 and 12-24 are readable on the elected invention.

At the same time, the Examiner's election requirement is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the species of all groups have a common idea which is defined in Claim 1, the broadest claim currently on file which is generic to all species disclosed.

It is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the election requirement and to prosecute in this application all claims related to all species.

It is also respectfully submitted that if a generic claim is finally held allowable, then the claims related to the non-elected species should be allowed as well.

Consideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should

the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

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